



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON CHILD PROTECTION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 381B
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<http://www.blueribboncommissionla.com/>**

Friday, February 21, 2014

1:30 PM

AUDIO AND VIDEO LINKS FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (14-0982)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)
[VIDEO PART 1](#)
[VIDEO PART 2](#)

Present: Chair David Sanders, Vice Chair Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, Commissioner Hon. Terry B. Friedman (ret.), Commissioner Gabriella Holt, Commissioner Marilyn L. Flynn, Commissioner Richard Martinez, Commissioner Andrea L. Rich, Commissioner Dan Scott and Commissioner Janet Teague

Absent: Vice Chair Hon. Dickran M. Tevrizian (ret.)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order. (14-0818)

Chair Sanders called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. Approval of the January 13, 2014 regular meeting minutes. (14-0819)

On motion of Commissioner Rich, seconded by Commissioner Scott, and unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Ayes: 9 - Chair David Sanders, Vice Chair Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, Commissioner Hon. Terry B. Friedman (ret.), Commissioner Gabriella Holt, Commissioner Marilyn L. Flynn, Commissioner Richard Martinez, Commissioner Andrea L. Rich, Commissioner Dan Scott and Commissioner Janet Teague

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hon. Dickran M. Tevrizian (ret.)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. PRESENTATIONS

3. Presentation by (times listed are approximate and may vary):

- 1:30 p.m. - California Health and Human Services Agency, Sylvia Pizzini, Assistant Secretary
- 2:00 p.m. - Los Angeles County Probation Department - David Mitchell, Bureau Chief, First Supervisorial District, and Michael Verner, Probation Director, Northeast Juvenile Justice Center
- 2:30 p.m. - University of Southern California - Wendy B. Smith, Associate Dean of Faculty Development and Clinical Associate Professor, USC School of Social Work
- 3:00 p.m. - Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention & Control - Holly McCravey, Program Administrator, Adult Treatment and Recovery Services (ATRS), and Sandy Song, Program Manager for ATRS Family Services
- 3:30 p.m. - University Consortium for Children and Families - Marilyn Flynn, President & Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection Commissioner (14-0820)

Sylvia Pizzini, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency, presented an overview of the Child Welfare Council (Council). Ms. Pizzini referenced issues addressed by Council and how they foster multi-system collaboration. Ms. Pizzini responded to questions posed by the Commission.

David Mitchell, Bureau Chief, First Supervisorial District, and Michael Verner, Probation Director, Northeast Juvenile Justice Center, Los Angeles County Probation Department, presented an overview of the collaboration between the probation department and the child welfare system. Bureau Chief Mitchell and Director Verner expressed concern over challenges presented due to the lack of funding, discussed recommendations and responded to questions posed by the Commission.

Wendy B. Smith, Associate Dean of Faculty Development and Clinical Associate Professor, USC School of Social Work, presented an overview of the use of psychotropic medication, mental health, specific dangers, risks and maltreatment associated with children and youth in the foster care system. Ms. Smith presented recommendations and responded to questions posed by the Commission.

Holly McCravery, Program Administrator, and Sandy Song, Program Manager, Adult Treatment and Recovery Services (ATRS), Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, presented an overview of the various services, programs and treatments the department offers. Ms. McCravery and Ms. Song responded to questions posed by the Commission.

Marilyn L. Flynn, President of University Consortium for Children and Families and Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection Commissioner, presented an overview on the university's collaboration efforts on improving child safety. Commissioner Flynn expressed concern over the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) lack of policy implementation and contract practices. Commissioner Flynn also presented recommendations and responded to questions posed by the Commission.

Members of the public, Helen Lynn, Arnold Sachs, Melinda Waite, Patrick O'Rourke and Denise Paz addressed the Commission.

Attachments: [Presentation by California Health and Human Services Agency](#)
[Presentation by University of Southern California](#)
[Presentation by Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse](#)
[Presentation by University Consortium for Children and Families](#)

III. DISCUSSION

4. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding April 2014 Final Report recommendations. (14-0821)

Chair Sanders presented a brief overview of the content that will be included in the final report and referenced five areas of focus; Mission; Structure and Accountability; Broad Service Continuum; Measurement and Transparency and Technology.

Chair Sanders assigned Commissioners to oversee the drafting of the sections in the report and assigned additional responsibilities as followed:

1. **Structure, Mission, Measurement: Commissioners Rich and Martinez, Vice Chair Gilbert-Lurie and Chair Sanders**
2. **Service Continuum and Transparency and Technology: Commissioners Flynn, Teague, Holt and Friedman**
3. **Continue to monitor implementation of the interim law enforcement recommendations to be incorporated in the final report: Commissioner Scott**

4. Review the entire set of recommendations and ensure coordination and consistency: Vice Chairs Gilbert-Lurie and Tevrizian and Chair Sanders

Vice Chair Gilbert-Lurie suggested a forum in which Commissioners are given the opportunity to review and debate the sections, recommendations and content of the final report.

Aileen Adams and Cheryl Grills, Co-Executive Directors, addressed the Commission and responded to questions posed by the Commission. Discussion ensued regarding the process by which the Commission will finalize the report.

After discussion, Chair Sanders indicated that a special meeting will be scheduled prior to the April 10, 2014 meeting to review the recommendations.

Members of the public, Helen Lynn, Arnold Sachs, Melinda Waite and Patrick O'Rourke addressed the Commission.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

- 5. Items not posted to the agenda, to be presented and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Commission, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (14-0822)**

Members of the public, Helen Lynn, Arnold Sachs, Melinda Waite and Patrick O'Rourke addressed the Commission.

- 6. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. (14-0823)**

Members of the public, Helen Lynn, Melinda Waite, Patrick O'Rourke, Denise Paz, Bill Gay, Manny Barragan and Kimberly Rogers addressed the Commission.

- 7. Adjournment. (14-0824)**

On motion of Commissioner Flynn, seconded by Vice Chair Gilbert-Lurie, there being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.